



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH and SOCIAL SERVICES
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CLINICIAN ADVISORY

Beware of False Negative Rapid Influenza Diagnostic Tests

Rapid influenza diagnostic tests have very low sensitivity (10-70%)

Negative rapid Influenza A test does not rule out H1N1 infection

Treatment decisions should not be based on rapid influenza test.

High risk patients should be treated with Tamiflu regardless of the rapid influenza test results.

***** Please refer to Interim Guidance for the Detection of Novel Influenza A Virus Using Rapid Influenza Diagnostic Tests**